



GSA DESIGN AWARDS 2006 CALL FOR ENTRIES

U.S. General Services Administration Public Buildings Service

RECOGNIZING EXCELLENCE IN DESIGN + CONSTRUCTION

It is with great pleasure and tremendous expectation that I announce the Call for Entries for the U.S. General Services Administration's (GSA's) 2006 Design Awards and invite you to submit your projects to the competition.

GSA's quest for excellence is a continuing journey. In all our businesses, we are constantly striving to do better on behalf of our customers and the American people, and we are succeeding.

To further this effort, GSA Design Awards 2006 offers us an opportunity to pause, assess progress, and celebrate our successes. The focus in this biennial awards program is on high performance and uncompromising quality in the buildings and public spaces we develop for our clients. A multi-disciplinary jury of private-sector design and art professionals from across the country will identify, by reviewing recent GSA commissions by the nation's finest architects, engineers, artists, and other design professionals, where we have most effectively fulfilled this mission, and, once chosen, we will celebrate and honor the private-sector and Federal associates who have made these projects a success. Such recognition is important, as these facilities—ranging from courthouses and offices to laboratories and border stations—extend a legacy of civic excellence initiated by our Founding Fathers.

We also want to translate these distinguished results into lessons learned. This year, we specifically ask those who are submitting projects to the competition to articulate these lessons. Lessons can relate to performance and design standards or processes that yield consistently strong outcomes. We want to know what works; and we want to share that wisdom.

Your participation is essential to the success of the awards program and GSA's continual efforts to improve the quality of our work. We look forward to receiving your entries.

LURITA DOAN

Administrator
U.S. General Services Administration



GSA DESIGN AWARDS 2006

The U.S. General Services Administration is the civilian government's largest real estate developer, owner, and manager. As such, GSA has not only a responsibility but a mandate to set the highest standards of excellence in building design and construction. What we create and build today is a legacy of public architecture and art that will be used and enjoyed now and by future generations. GSA, through its Public Buildings Service, carries out this important trust in partnership with private firms and individuals across the country.

The GSA Design Awards Program recognizes the outstanding achievements that result from these partnerships. GSA Design Awards 2006 is the ninth since the program was reinstated in 1990. The program has a broad number of categories that encompass virtually every way design professionals contribute to the quality of the federal workplace and leave an enduring imprint on America's built environment.

We invite entries from individuals and firms that have worked on GSA-sponsored projects completed between January 1, 2001, and October 2, 2006. Awards will be presented at a ceremony in Washington, DC, in March 2007.

CRITERIA

- Success in responding to GSA project objectives and requirements
- Innovative solutions to meeting needs
- Technical and functional proficiency
- Aesthetic sensibility
- Effectively addressing GSA environmental goals and policies
- Cost efficiency on a life-cycle basis
- Ability of a project to serve as a model for others



ELIGIBILITY

Submissions must be for projects authorized by GSA and completed between January 1, 2001, and October 2, 2006. In architecture only, On the Boards design concepts for new construction approved by the Commissioner of the Public Buildings Service but not yet completed during this period are also eligible.

The Design Awards Program is open to:

Contract design professionals, contractors, construction managers, artists, and/or firms and organizations that have completed or are working on projects for GSA or under GSA authority.

GSA employees or former employees who have or had professional responsibility for a GSA-authorized project.

Non-winning submissions to previous GSA Design Awards Programs may be resubmitted if the project was completed between January 1, 2001, and October 2, 2006.

No entry fee is required, and submissions must be received by 12 noon, Eastern Standard Time, Monday, November 6, 2006.

JUDGING

GSA will assemble a jury of nationally recognized, private-sector design professionals, artists, contractors, and construction managers to select award recipients at two levels: Honor Award and Citation. The jury may choose to make more than one award in a category, elect to make no award in a category, or switch a project to another category. Projects will be judged on individual merit according to the criteria noted.

ANNOUNCEMENT & PRESENTATION OF WINNERS

Winners will be notified by letter. Awards will be presented at a ceremony in Washington, DC, in March 2007. Award plaques will be presented to winning firms and individuals and to the GSA officials under whose authority the work was performed. Individuals who provided support to each award-winning project will receive certificates of recognition.

DEADLINE

All submissions must be received by **12 noon**, Eastern Standard Time, on **Monday, November 6, 2006**.

Mail or hand carry submissions to:

Attn: Thomas Walton
GSA Design Awards 2006
U.S. General Services Administration
Public Buildings Service (PMB) – Room 3341
Office of the Chief Architect
1800 F Street, NW
Washington, DC 20405

For additional information and entry forms, please contact Thomas Walton.

Telephone: (202) 501-1888

E-mail: thomas.walton@gsa.gov

SUBMISSION CATEGORIES

GSA Design Awards 2006 recognizes achievements in design and design activities (e.g., special programs, initiatives, processes) in the following categories. See preceding page for more details of (*) categories.

ARCHITECTURE—COMPLETED PROJECTS

ARCHITECTURE—ON THE BOARDS NEW CONSTRUCTION

ART IN ARCHITECTURE

CONSERVATION AND RESTORATION (INCLUDING ART CONSERVATION)*

CONSTRUCTION EXCELLENCE*

ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY

ENERGY CONSERVATION*

FIRST IMPRESSIONS*

GRAPHIC DESIGN (INCLUDING SIGNAGE AND WAYFINDING)

INTERIOR DESIGN

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

LEASE CONSTRUCTION*

MODERNIZATIONS*

PRESERVATION DESIGN*

SECURITY AND OPENNESS

SUSTAINABILITY*

URBAN DESIGN AND PLANNING*

WORKPLACE ENVIRONMENT



CONSERVATION AND RESTORATION (INCLUDING ART CONSERVATION)

acknowledges excellence in protecting the original fabric and intent of a work of art or architecture, and applying exemplary methodologies to its analysis, treatment, and documentation, including the application of innovative technologies to achieve a successful outcome.

CONSTRUCTION EXCELLENCE recognizes the importance of the builder in translating the architect's vision into concrete, steel, glass, and stone. Submissions will be judged on how well specific construction procedures and practices have been applied to GSA capital projects. Factors to be considered include: management of overall construction costs; completion of projects on time and within budget; management of change orders; reduction of claims and litigation, and design deficiencies; and quality of construction for the approved design.

ENERGY CONSERVATION emphasizes designs that are simultaneously innovative and cost-effective in reducing energy consumption. Criteria include conservation as a pervasive strategy in the building's conceptual development and design, the integration of conservation with other design priorities, and the value of the approach as a model for other projects.

FIRST IMPRESSIONS focuses attention on plazas, entrances, lobbies, and public corridors of federal buildings and their success in making people who enter feel welcome, safe, and professionally served. With before and after photos, submissions must demonstrate that these public spaces have been improved and transformed by eliminating clutter, consolidating services, streamlining security, and unifying building signage.

LEASE CONSTRUCTION expands the reach of GSA's design excellence criteria to include not only federally-owned facilities but also facilities built-to-suit and leased by GSA for a federal client. GSA believes that all facilities housing federal employees, whether owned or leased, should exemplify the highest standards of design and construction excellence.

MODERNIZATIONS are major renovation projects in non-historic buildings.

PRESERVATION DESIGN recognizes model preservation design approaches and innovative design solutions to challenging preservation and adaptive use problems, especially those that creatively resolve conflicts between preservation goals, building codes, program requirements, and other design needs. Projects must be consistent with GSA's preservation policy and stewardship goals, as well as the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation.

SUSTAINABILITY addresses a spectrum of issues. These include siting that leverages energy conservation and minimizes impacts on the surrounding environment; the recycling of materials on the site prior to construction; the use of recycled, environmentally-friendly materials in new construction; the conservation of water and energy; and the design of interior spaces that are flexible and effective work environments. LEED certification is desirable for projects submitted in this category.

URBAN DESIGN AND PLANNING recognizes the role that design and collaboration play in shaping public spaces and neighborhoods at and around GSA properties. The jury will consider how well GSA building and landscape elements contribute to a cohesive urban fabric, looking for an approach that supports local urban design and planning goals.

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

The submission must clearly communicate, in visual and narrative form, the scope and outstanding features of the project and be organized to facilitate easy review by the jury.

Materials must be in transparent sleeves inside a standard white 1 1/2" three-ring binder with insertable pockets on the spine and covers. The project name, location (city and state), and category must appear on the front and the spine of the binder. No deviations from this requirement are permitted.

A complete binder must be submitted for each entry. If you wish to enter the same project in more than one category, submit a separate binder for each category. The information submitted should describe the outstanding features of the project and address design challenges relevant to the specific submission category. A project entered in more than one category should not be simply the submission of a duplicate binder containing the same information.

Include the following items in the binder, in the order listed:

- Two copies of the completed entry form, typed in no smaller than 10-point type. Submissions in a format other than the official entry form will not be considered. (Photocopies are acceptable.) Electronic copies of the entry form are available at www.gsa.gov/designexcellence. These can be filled out on-line for those owning the software to create PDFs.
- An executive summary of the project and the reasons it merits consideration for an award in the chosen category.
- Lessons learned bullets setting forth why the project is a model.
- Reductions of drawings (such as plans, elevations, and sections) that will fit in the binder sleeves without folding. All submissions in the categories Architecture—Completed Projects, Architecture—On the Boards, Art in Architecture, Landscape Architecture, and Lease Construction must include a site plan.
- Professional-quality, black and white and/or color photographs and/or renderings of the project. These must show different views and be printed so that there is one image per face of the plastic sleeves in the submission package. Views might include each exposed exterior side of a building and important interior spaces. A description of the view shown should accompany each image.

Conservation and Restoration, First Impressions, Modernization, and Preservation projects must include before and after photographs of the same locations/views.

Construction Excellence submissions should have photographs showing the quality of exterior and interior craftsmanship.

- Photo captions, credits, and authorizations for reproduction allowing GSA to reproduce the images without compensation in print and electronic media, signed by the photographer (or his or her authorized representative), should be typed on a single sheet of paper for each photograph and attached to the back of the photograph. Please do not use rubber cement or write directly on the photograph.
- A narrative, not to exceed three typewritten, single-spaced pages, that summarizes the project and gives pertinent details on its design and/or construction quality and accomplishments. Please address the purpose, goals, design methodology or construction process, results, cost effectiveness, and significance of the project. State why it is a model of excellence.
- A CD with digital images of all photographs, renderings, and plans. These must be prepared in two formats. One folder should contain high resolution TIFF or EPS images that when opened to 8" x 10" have a minimum resolution of 300 DPI. For highest quality, provide CMYK TIFF files. A second folder should have JPEGs that when opened to 8" x 10" have a resolution of 100 DPI. The two folders should be clearly distinguished and each image must be labeled to include the building name and view. The CD should be accompanied by a statement signed by the photographer (or his or her authorized representative) allowing GSA to reproduce the images without compensation in print and electronic media.

All submission materials become the property of GSA and may be used to publicize GSA's Design Awards Program and other activities.

Submission materials will not be returned. Do not submit your only copies of photographic documentation.

GSA may request additional materials from award winners for publicity and exhibition purposes.

For Construction Excellence:

In addition to describing the construction process and quality of the finished product, applicants should answer the following questions:

- Budget—Was project brought in on or below budget? If not, give the reason.
- Schedule—Was project completed on or ahead of schedule? If not, why?
- Partnering—How was partnering handled to maintain a positive working relationship among all the members of the project team?
- Conflict Resolutions and Change Orders—How were conflict resolutions and change orders managed to mitigate impact on the project schedule and budget?
- Value Engineering—Was value engineering done on the project? If so, what was its effect on budget, schedule, and quality?
- Awards and Commendation—Did the project win any local craftsmanship awards and/or have letters from users on the quality of the facility?

ENTRY FORM (type or print)

Project

PROJECT NAME	
LOCATION	
AWARD CATEGORY	If submitted in more than one category, specify what other category(ies)
DATE OF COMPLETION	
DESIGN COST	
CONSTRUCTION/FABRICATION/PRINTING COST	COST PER SQ.FT. OR UNIT
RESPONSIBLE GSA OFFICIAL	

Entrant

NAME	ROLE/TITLE
FIRM/ORGANIZATION	
STREET ADDRESS	
CITY/STATE/ZIP CODE	
TELEPHONE NUMBER	FAX NUMBER
E-MAIL ADDRESS	
NAME OF FIRM/ORGANIZATION AS YOU WISH IT TO APPEAR ON THE AWARD	
SIGNATURE	DATE

CREDITS

Include designers and design managers (or construction managers if Construction Excellence) who had significant involvement in the project for the category in which the project is submitted. Additional credit pages may be added and must accompany this submission. Please be inclusive in naming those individuals who should receive recognition. No names may be added after the submission deadline. Please indicate the title of the submission in the upper right-hand corner of each page.

Contract Professionals

NAME
ROLE/TITLE
FIRM/ORGANIZATION
STREET ADDRESS
CITY/STATE/ZIP CODE
TELEPHONE NUMBER
FAX NUMBER
E-MAIL ADDRESS
NAME
ROLE/TITLE
COMPANY
STREET ADDRESS
CITY/STATE/ZIP CODE
TELEPHONE NUMBER
FAX NUMBER
E-MAIL ADDRESS

GSA Professionals

NAME
ROLE/TITLE
FIRM/ORGANIZATION
STREET ADDRESS
CITY/STATE/ZIP CODE
TELEPHONE NUMBER
FAX NUMBER
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PUBLIC BUILDINGS SERVICE (PMB)
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WASHINGTON, DC 20405